

1892, p. 204), which I think is undescribed. Its length is less than that of *Ph. brasilianus*, but its tail is longer. It is occasionally seen here in spring and summer, when it associates with the Gulls in their breeding-place. The present specimen was captured by a friend, who kept it alive for three days; hence its cut wing.

[If this belongs to a species distinct from *P. brasilianus* (which I agree with Mr. Holland seems likely), it is probably *P. gracilis* (Meyen), described and figured as *Halius gracilis* in his Beitr. z. Zool. p. 237, tab. xxxii., from specimens obtained in Chili. But I cannot decide the question without additional examples.—P. L. S.]

14. DENDROCYGNA FULVA (Gm.). (Arg. Orn. ii. p. 126.)

A male, March 22nd, 1896. Legs slate-blue; iris black; bill slate-blue, tip black.

A winter and summer visitor in flocks, but not common.

15. GELOCHELIDON ANGLICA (Mont.); Saunders, B. M. C. xxv. p. 25.

Sterna anglica, Holland, Ibis, 1890, p. 428; 1892, p. 212.

[Mr. Holland sends home a fine adult male of this Tern, obtained at Sta. Elena, Oct. 12th, 1895. "Legs black; iris brown; bill black." He notes it as "fairly common," so that there can be now no doubt whatever that it should be added to the Argentine list.—P. L. S.]

XV.—On a Further Collection of Birds, made by Messrs. La Touche and Rickett, from N.W. Fohkien. By HENRY H. SLATER.

(Plate IV.)

I AM again indebted to my two indefatigable friends in the far East for the privilege of examining an interesting collection of birds, selected from a much larger number, obtained at Kuatun (cf. 'Ibis,' 1896, pp. 489-490) in May and June 1896. I am pleased to find among them some confirmation of an expectation formed a good many years since—namely, that many of the Himalayan birds, hitherto

known only from the Indian side, would on further investigation be found, either in identical form or as closely-allied representative species, in China. It will be noticed that many of the birds here mentioned are of genera well known in the Indian hill-country. Now, if N.W. Fohkien were anywhere near the Indian boundary the circumstance would be of interest; far more so when, in the present case, these birds come from a region much nearer to the Pacific coast.

Before mentioning the birds themselves, I should like to express my thanks to Mr. W. R. Ogilvie Grant, who has given me valuable assistance at the British Museum, and who, I may add, has concurred generally in the views which I express.

1. PHYLLOSCOPUS REGULOIDES, Blyth.

Two examples, in brilliant summer plumage, shot at Kuatun, on May 6th and June 3rd, 1896, respectively. It is therefore probable that this species breeds in N.W. Fohkien, as well as being a winter visitant (*cf.* 'Ibis,' 1896, pp. 490-492).

2. PHYLLOSCOPUS AFFINIS (Tickell).

I have taken particular care in the identification of this species, since Mr. Styan ('Ibis,' 1891, p. 339) puts down as young examples of *Lusciniola schwarzi* (Radde) two birds previously ('Ibis,' 1889, p. 444) described by him as belonging to the present species. However, the one which I have before me is, beyond question, an example of *Phylloscopus affinis* (Tickell), in rather faded breeding-plumage, shot at Kuatun on June 5th, 1896. It is the first occurrence of this bird in Central China, though previously recorded in Kansu (David and Oustalet, 'Oiseaux de la Chine'). *Phylloscopus affinis* is a much smaller bird than *Lusciniola schwarzi*, with feeble Phylloscopine legs and feet, of a general greenish yellow at all seasons. *L. schwarzi*, besides being larger generally, has pale legs and feet of a stouter build than any *Phylloscopus*, and is noticeably longer in the tarsus than the present species. Its underparts alone seem to put on the greenish tinge mentioned by Mr. Styan in the first autumn;

but this at its brightest is nothing like the vivid green-yellow which *P. affinis* wears all the year round.

+ 3. *CETTIA RUSSULA*, n. sp.

This bird, of which I have been favoured with three examples to examine, belongs to that section of the genus *Cettia* in which the crown of the head is uniform in tint with the rest of the upper parts. In many respects it is like *C. pallidipes*, Blanf., of Assam, but differs from it in having no trace of olivaceous in the colour of the upper parts. No white *post*-orbital eyebrow. Moreover, the ear-coverts are of exactly the same shade as the rest of the head, whereas in *C. pallidipes* they are deep umber-brown, and match the equally dark lores in front of the eye.

Description.—General colour of upper parts dull russet-brown; lores and ear-coverts of precisely the same shade; eye-stripe buffish white, indistinct, and not extending behind the eye; wings and tail rather darker brown, edged with the same shade as the back; underparts brown-buff, becoming white on the throat, centre of breast and of belly; axillaries pale buff, under tail-coverts darker buff. Bastard primary half the length of the second, which is about equal to the 10th; 3rd, 4th, and 5th the longest (the 4th having the advantage by a mere shade); from the 5th the others decrease evenly to the secondaries: tail, 0·2 to 0·3 in., considerably longer than the wing; central feathers fully 0·6 in. longer than the external pair: bill brown, lower mandible paler; legs and feet very pale brown, possibly yellowish when fresh. Length of wing 1·9 to 2 inches, tail 2·1 to 2·4, culmen 0·4, tarsus 0·73.

There are two birds in the British Museum Collection (placed among *C. pallidipes*) which Colonel Godwin-Austen's collector obtained at Miri, on the Assam frontier. They may possibly be of this species, which they resemble rather than *C. pallidipes*, but their poor condition makes it difficult to pronounce definitely.

The three specimens of *Cettia russula* that I have examined were shot at Kuatun on 18th May, 27th May, and 6th June, 1896, respectively.

4. *SUTHORA DAVIDIANA*, n. sp. (Pl. IV. fig. 1.)

The gem of the collection. The smaller Suthoras are divided into two groups by the Key in the B. M. Cat., vii. p. 486. The *S. humii* group have black throats and parti-coloured plumage, the head and back being of much the same tint. The *S. conspicillata* group have plain throats and are modest-coloured; the head different in colour from the back. The present species falls into neither section; it resembles the *S. humii* party in possessing a black throat, and the *S. conspicillata* group in having a red head and plain dusky back and wings. I regret to point out that this discovery spoils the Key.

Description.—Head rich chestnut, extending over the nape and sides of the head; back grey, with a faint brown tint on the tips of the feathers; wings, including the coverts, earthy brown, the primaries with sandy outer margins; upper tail-coverts sandy; tail dusky brown, with broad dull rufous external margins to the remiges; throat black, with minute white tips to the feathers where they meet the grey-white chest; rest of underparts sandy grey, more ruddy on the flanks, thighs, and under tail-coverts. Length 3·9 inches, culmen 0·3, wing 2 to 2·05, tail 1·6, tarsus ·66.

It will be seen that this species is proportionately shorter in the tail than any other of the family. It is quite distinct from *S. humii*, *S. poliotis*, and *S. nipalensis*, in having no black, white, or grey on the sides or top of the head. *S. verreauxi* (*S. gularis* of Verreaux) I have not seen, but, judging from Verreaux's figure (Nouv. Arch. viii. pl. vi., 1872), the latter has a white eyebrow, the crown of the same colour as the back, and bright chestnut wings, which will not do for the present bird at all. The description of *S. alphonsiana*, Verr., gives no black throat, and the sides of the head rosy grey, as in *S. bulomachus*.

5. *SUTHORA BULOMACHUS*, Swinh.

One specimen. I am led to make a further remark on the genus *Suthora*. Messrs. Seebohm and Styan reviewed this genus, so far as it related to Chinese species, in 'The Ibis,' 1894,



J. G. Keulemans del. et lith

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1. SUTHORA DAVIDIANA. 2. CRYPTOLOPHA RICKETTI

p. 338, and came to the conclusion that *S. suffusa* must be considered a synonym of *S. bulomachus*. When lately examining the large series at the British Museum, I was surprised that they had not gone a step further, and joined *S. bulomachus* to *S. webbiana*. The distinctions have always seemed to me to be singularly unsatisfactory, and are briefly the following:—*S. webbiana*, is supposed to be ashy brown on the back, while *S. bulomachus* is pale olivaceous brown and has a shorter tail—*S. webbiana* being the Northern, as *S. bulomachus* is the South China form. Every supposed characteristic of the northern form can be found in southern birds, and *vice versâ*: the length of tail is by no means constant in either; the supposed differences in massiveness of bill are infinitesimal, and seem to me to be marks of age; and, to crown all, while *S. suffusa* is described in the B. M. Catalogue as “very similar to *webbiana*,” Messrs. Seebohm and Styan make it synonymous with *S. bulomachus*! Mr. Ogilvie Grant agrees with me in the view that *S. webbiana* ought to be the sole surviving name for a species which ranges from Mongolia to Formosa, of which *S. bulomachus*, Swinh., *S. suffusa*, Swinh., *S. longicauda*, Campb., and no doubt *S. fulvicauda*, Campb., also, are merely synonyms.

† 6. YUHINA NIGRIMENTUM, Hodgs.

Hitherto only recorded from China, I believe, by MM. David and Oustalet, the former of whom found it very rare in the mountainous parts of the extreme S.W. It is one of the birds, however, which I have long been expecting to hear of from other parts of China; I have now a male from Kuantun (17.5.96) from Messrs. La Touche and Rickett. I think it unadvisable to separate this from the Himalayan species, although both above and below it is decidedly greyer, differing exactly as *Parus ater*, across the Channel, does from the English Coal-Tit. Instead of being olive-brown above, it is decidedly ashy, except on the wings and tail; and there is much less fulvous on the underparts—only a tint of it, indeed.

7. ANORTHURA, sp. incert.

This bird, which no doubt would have been of the highest interest, reached me without a head. As far as can be judged from the remains, the bird is intermediate between *A. fumigata* of Japan and *A. formosa* of India.

8. PNOEPYGA PUSILLA, Hodgs.

One old bird (Kuatun, 20.5.96) and a dusky young one. A new record for China.

9. CRYPTOLOPHA CASTANEICEPS, Hodgs.

It is somewhat singular that this Nipalese bird should be found in N.W. Fohkien; but not only have Messrs. La Touche and Rickett sent me for identification two females from Kuatun, but they inform me that one of them was shot off four eggs. The only difference that I can detect between these and Nipalese examples is the absence of any white in the "centre of the body," which is in both the Fohkien females of a uniform canary-yellow; the culmen measures a trifle less in the latter (0.32, to 0.4 in Indians); they are otherwise normal.

+10. CRYPTOLOPHA RICKETTI, n. sp. (Pl. IV. fig. 2.)

This interesting bird, of which I have received a male and female (shot at Kuatun on the 20th and 30th of May, 1896), is most closely allied to *C. burkii*, Burton, of India, and *C. trivirgata* (Temm.) of Java, and, with these two species, differs definitely from all the rest of the species of *Cryptolopha* in having the underparts of a uniform yellow from bill to tail. It differs from both, however, in that its underparts are of the clearest canary-yellow; beside it both the others look green. It has no trace of the yellow rump of *C. burkii*, the upper parts from nape to tail being of a uniform grey-green. In *C. burkii* the whole of the inner web of the tail-feathers is white; in *C. trivirgata* there is a white margin to the inner web, not reaching the end of the feathers; in *C. ricketti* there is a narrow yellow line on the edge of the inner web from base to apex. The differences are difficult to define in words, but the three species look quite different to the eye, and *C. ricketti* is noticeably shorter-billed.

Head with a yellowish-green line from beak to nape down the centre of the crown; on either side of it a broad black line, bordered by a bright yellow eyebrow; through the eye another black stripe; rest of upper parts grey-green, the feathers of the darker wings and tail margined externally with the same grey-green; throat and underparts, including the under wing-coverts and axillaries, bright canary-yellow; outer tail-feathers with a narrow yellow inner margin, reaching to the tips of the feathers; upper mandible very dark brown, the lower whitish horn-colour; legs and feet, including claws, very pale yellow-brown.

Length 4.2 inches, culmen 0.33, wing 2 to 2.1, tail 1.6, tarsus 0.64.

I have named this species after Mr. C. B. Rickett, who is doing so much at present for Central Chinese ornithology.

+11. *SIPHIA BRUNNEATA*, n. sp.

This is the Chinese form of *S. olivacea*, Hume, with which (from the description in B. M. Cat. iv. p. 458) I at first believed it to be identical. But on comparison with the Museum series it seems quite divergent enough for separation. I have before me two examples, a male shot at Kuatun on May 26, 1896, and another, shot next day, of which the sex is not marked. Instead of dull olivaceous above, as in *S. olivacea*, the colour of the upper parts is a dusky russet-brown, without the least tinge of green; the sides of the head are of the same uniform russet—not ashy grey, as in *S. olivacea*; and the underparts, excepting the centre of the throat and belly, which are white, are of a lighter shade of the dusky russet found on the back. Moreover the Chinese birds have a whitish base to the under mandible, which none of the Indian specimens in the British Museum have.

Measurements:—

		Culmen.	Wing.	Tail.	Tarsus.
		in.	in.	in.	in.
<i>S. brunneata</i>	♂	0.5	3.2	2.3	0.65
„	♀	0.53	3.25	2.6	0.7
<i>S. olivacea</i>	♂ (India)	} 0.5	2.9	} 2.5	0.7
„	♂ (do.)		2.95		
„	♂ (do.)		2.85		

From this it will appear that *C. brunneata* is of the same size generally as *S. olivacea*, but has a decidedly longer wing. I might add that the description of *S. albo-olivacea*, Hume, given in a footnote to the B. M. Cat. (iv. p. 457), does not fit the present bird at all.

12. *GECINULUS VIRIDANUS*, n. sp.

Bears a general resemblance to *G. grantia*, McClell., of India. It will be enough, perhaps, to point out the differences between the two. *G. viridanus* is a dull green *G. grantia*; the red on the back is less vivid and is much mixed up with green; the yellow on the throat, sides of face, and back of neck in *G. grantia* becomes in *G. viridanus* dull dingy green, the hinder crown alone being yellowish. The rosy feathers of the fore-crown are much less vivid in *G. viridanus*. But the chief distinction lies in the much more boldly marked wings and tail of the latter, which are black, distinctly barred with buff, and a wash of rich deep red on the top of all. The foregoing rather suggests a description of the young bird of *G. grantia*, but the colouring is really very dissimilar, and in the example sent me by Messrs. La Touche and Rickett the rosy feathers of the head are confined to the forehead, showing the bird to be an adult male. Lastly, the Chinese bird has a longer wing by more than .3 inch (5.35 to 5.0 in *G. grantia*), though in other respects much of the same size.

It was killed at Kuatun in the winter of 1895-96, and Messrs. La Touche and Rickett's collector obtained it, and the following, from a native.

13. *DENDROCOPUS INSULARIS*, Gould.

An adult male, shot with the foregoing at Kuatun in winter. Hitherto recorded only from Formosa, but a number of the birds originally described from that locality are being now discovered on the adjacent mainland.